

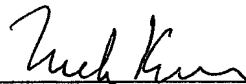
commonly assigned and copending with the present application, is only available under subsection (e) of 35 USC 102, and therefore, is not properly utilizable under 35 USC 103 in light of 35 USC 103(c). Accordingly, Yabutani et al is not properly utilizable in rejecting claims based upon the combination of Yabutani et al and Yablonowski et al, it being noted that applicants have previously pointed out the inapplicability of Yablonowski et al to the claimed invention, and it is not considered necessary to point out the deficiencies in combination with Yabutani et al since Yabutani et al is not properly utilizable.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants submit that the rejection of claims 21 - 43 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yabutani et al in view of Yablonowski et al should now be overcome, and applicants submit that this application should now be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, issuance of an action of a favorable nature is courteously solicited.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 500.40416X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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